

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF FALL CITY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
OF KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON
HELD July 6, 2010

A special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fall City Metropolitan Park District (FCMPD) of King County, Washington, was held July 6, 2010 at the Fall City Masonic Lodge located at 4304 337th PL SE, Fall City, Washington, at 7:00 p.m. Commissioners Harris, Moderow, Pettersson, and Schneider were present. Commissioner Wilkins was absent and his absence was excused.

1. Call to Order.

Commissioner Harris acted as Chairman of the meeting and business was conducted as follows. He stated that Commissioner Moderow has volunteered to take minutes of this meeting.

2. Review and Approve Outstanding Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Moderow reported that the meeting minutes from the 6-22-10 meeting had not yet been prepared.

3. Business from the Floor

Commissioner Harris opened up the floor for public comment in the order that folks had signed up on the 'sign in' sheet.

The following is a brief summary of the public input received:

- Bill Blakely – voiced a concern that proper notice had not been given for the meeting and that a 10 day notice was required.
- Larry Miller – wants to have a passive use application and not a mixed use.
- Steve Kenagy – attended tonight's meeting to find out what's going on.
- Dave Hill – wants passive use and not active use application. Also wanted to know what the "rush" is for getting this application in. Brought in mounted boards exhibiting the King County code stating the difference between active and passive use parks as well as the RCO definition of active/passive use parks. He feels that an active use park will destroy the community. Doesn't feel we have enough input from the adjacent neighbors. Wants broad input from across the community. Dave Hill wants community activities and not scheduled league events. Commissioner Schneider noted that by applying for the grant during this grant cycle allows the District more options than if we postpone for two years until the next cycle is available.
- Charlie Kellogg – addressed the group about why he and his partner bought the property and his vision for a place for kids to play and neighbors to get together. He would like to see a barn and a pea-patch possibly a public meeting space on a portion of the site. It should be a place for future viability.

He will not be making a lot of money- it is not his goal and he is not looking for a busy park.

- Rick Welsh – doesn't want a park at the former Wells site. Asked; has Commission decided what will be active, what will be passive do we know if this is the right piece of land? Commissioner Harris replied that the Board liked the accessibility to the community as well as many other positive attributes. Rick suggested that the District should improve pedestrian access to Fall City Park. Asked if we have considered options for other locations.
- Joelle Keizer – Noted that access and convenience is not good for the Fall City Park and that the Wells site is a place that she lives close to and watches people walking with families with kids in strollers and on bikes. The community needs a park with equipment that allows kids on more basic development (than baseball and soccer) for smaller children. Wants volleyball and less structured play. Emphasizes the need for the Board to engage neighbors immediately adjacent to the Wells site.
- Jeff Appleseth – lives next to the site and is trying to come up to speed on the issues. Concerned that only certain groups have been involved and not the neighbors. Participated in the Survey and feels that the results point to passive and rural activities. Too much input from league organized sports. Long term thinking, we need parks but if we take the wrong path we will impact the community in a negative way.
- Teresa Appleseth – has been in the community for 18 years. Feels that there was not enough advance notice. Also, brought meeting minutes from Little League where Commissioner Wilkins was promoting the ball fields with organized sports on May 10th. Concerned that mixed use category leaves too much option for a busy "league" park. Terry Campbell, responded as active Little League representation. The dialog with at that meeting was that if the District built sports fields they would be willing to support financially because they have a shortage of fields for Fall City kids. With the current number of kids and playfields, sometimes they have to ship Fall City kids to other fields in Snoqualmie and Carnation.
- Bess Granby – wants a Mom's park and shares concerns for active recreation.
- Ian Jones – wants to clarify the active and passive options. Definitions provided on mounted boards by Dave Hill were reviewed. Lives near the site and likes Charlie's "pastorial" park ideas. Big concern is to place long term limitations for future use. Kirk described multiple years of public influence on development of Wilburton Hill Park in the City of Bellevue.
- Don Proctor – has been in Fall City for 6 years, has read its history, and wants rural preservation. The area has a legacy of keeping sewers out, in 1999 the Fall City Sub Area plan was developed to define what the community wanted. Neighbors fought the rezone of the Herb Farm. Heard that Ralph Wells tried and failed to get rezones through at this same site. Subarea Plan is specific about what can be done. Wants the preservation of 30 years of rural

character. Cited City of Sammamish worked with schools to build ball fields that went on to get over used to illustrate “park creep”.

- Christine Proctor – has 4 children. Loves that the kids can go into the town and schools but they can’t go across the Well’s road to bike. What will happen if that becomes organized sports fields – little kids can’t get through added traffic. Observes that horses currently use it and they too will suffer with additional traffic. Want Commissioners to take to heart the opinions of the neighbors.
- Matt Travis – is a past member of CAC and recognizes that there was an overwhelming majority that wanted the community to remain rural. Offered thanks to the Commission for our hard work in trying to please everybody. Is not an adjacent property owner but feels that public input is very important. Suggests that we do more survey work to make sure that we really have captured the desires of the Community. Is an engineer and would recommend that we engage professional park designers rather than just cobble together a public based site plan.
- John Chaney – upset that Park District is not getting enough credit when County was not treating Fall City parks properly. Supports the mixed use category although doesn’t want sports fields but we really need good parks for the kids for doing organized sports. He would like to see a skate park. Wants to move forward with the application now with mixed use category. Doesn’t think we have consensus with the broader community but only the neighbors adjacent to the potential park site.
- Leslie Kellogg – brought up the comment that we need to introduce new ideas through many meetings and over a long period to get community support. Gathering support is a skill and takes time. Encouraged the community members in attendance to participate and to show up to build consensus for what they do want not just what they don’t want. Would like to see the master plan try to capture the entire vision of the community. Noted that we have many common goals for our community and for our kids. Offered that the property will become “something” sometime, and if not a park then it will be something else.
- Kris Grigas – lived in FC for 22 years and concerned parks will not have appropriate security. Also, concerned about property taxes. She walks but most people don’t and thinks that many people would drive to it.
- Sharlot Driggs – when she bought her house she knew that an adjacent open lot would someday be developed. When it did it was an improvement. Encourages people to look forward and to be involved in participation of the Wells park site development.

4. Discuss and Decide Wells Site RCO Grant Application

Commissioner Harris stated that the Commissioners would take action on the grant application submittal at the next meeting. Questions were raised regarding if options and language would be changed such as passive and multi-use designations. Commissioner Harris noted that it was his interpretation of the King County Code and the RCO definitions that passive use would not allow pre-scheduling of fields but mixed use would.

5. Discuss and Decide Committee Assignments.

Tabled.

6. Discuss and Decide the Office Administrator Position.

Tabled.

7. Adjourn.

After discussion, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

President and Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk and Commissioner